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ROSS ON WYE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

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ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR

1966

ROSS-ON-WYE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit my Annual Report for the year 1966 in accordance with Article 15(4) and (5) of the Public Health Officers Regulations 1959, and Circular 1/67 of the Ministry of Health.

During 1966 the health of the population of the Urban District was good. The number of live births was greater than in the previous year but there was an increase in the number of deaths. The incidence of acute infectious disease was very low.

The Report contains a meteorological report kindly supplied by Mr. F.J. Parsons, M.B.E., Meteorologist-in-Charge, County Observatory, Ross-on-Wye, giving a record of climatic conditions during the year.

In the preparation of this Report, I acknowledge assistance from Mr. E. Moses, Clerk to the Council, and Mr. R.H. Shaw Batchford, Public Health Inspector.

I take this opportunity of thanking the Council for the support which has been given me in the discharge of my duties throughout the year.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

William Hogg

Medical Officer of Health

24th May, 1967



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ROSS-ON-WYE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

William Hogg, M.B., B.S., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H., F.R.S.H.

CLERK TO THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

Miss A.O. Gale

Telephone:

Ross-on-Wye 2214

Chepstow House,

Ross-on-Wye.

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR, ENGINEER AND SURVEYOR
AND HOUSING DESIGNATED OFFICER

Mr. R.H. Shaw Batchford, A.M.Inst.B.E.

Qualified Public Health Inspector (Joint Board)

" Food Inspector (Royal Sanitary Institute)

" Building Surveyor (Inst. Municipal Engineers)

AUTHORISED MEAT INSPECTORS

CHIEF MEAT INSPECTOR

Mr. N. Brook, L.M.R.S.H., M.A.M.I. (R.S.H. Certificate
in Meat Inspection)

ADDITIONAL MEAT INSPECTOR

Mr. Wm. Costelloe, A.M.R.S.H., A.M.I.M.T.D. (R.S.H.
Certificate in Meat Inspection)

SECTION A - STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

Area(in acres)	=	1,004
Number of inhabited houses (31.12.66)	=	2,018
Rateable Value	=	£229,027
Sum represented by a penny rate	=	£860
Registrar General's estimated mid-year population	=	6,270
Area comparability factor (births)	=	1.11
Area comparability factor (deaths)	=	0.75

Vital Statistics for the Year

Number of live births	=	117
Live birth rate per 1000 population (crude)	=	18.7
Illegitimate live births per cent of total live births	=	5.1%

Stillbirths

Number of stillbirths	=	1
Rate per 1000 (live and still) births	=	8.5
Infant deaths (under 1 year)	=	Nil

Infant Mortality Rates

Infant deaths per 1000 live births	=	Nil
Legitimate infant deaths per 1000 legitimate live births	=	Nil
Illegitimate infant deaths per 1000 illegitimate live births	=	Nil
Neonatal Mortality Rate (deaths under 4 weeks per 1000 live births)	=	Nil
Early Neonatal Mortality Rate (deaths under 1 week per 1000 live births)	=	Nil
Perinatal Mortality Rate (stillbirths and deaths under 1 week per 1000 total live and still births)	=	8.5

Maternal Mortality (including abortion)

Number of maternal deaths	=	Nil
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The Urban District of Ross-on-Wye is a small country town, known as a holiday centre for the lower Wye Valley. The town is recognised as an inland health resort for convalescence, especially during the winter months.

Catering for visitors forms an important source of employment. Industries located in the town include timber and joinery works, rubber moulding, printing and some light engineering.

Population

The Registrar General's estimated mid-year population for 1966 was 6,270, an increase of 629 on the 1961 census population of the Urban District. This population occupied 2,018 dwellings, and the average number of persons per occupied dwelling was 3.1, and the average number of persons per acre was 6.2. The average number of occupied dwellings per acre was 2.0. The natural increase of population (excess of live births over deaths) for 1966 was 23.

Births

The total number of live births recorded as having occurred within the District during the year is 117 (60 male and 57 female). During the previous year 109 births were attributed to the district. The crude live birth rate per 1000 of the estimated population is 18.7 and using the comparability factor of 1.11 for the District, the corrected live birth rate is 20.7 per 1000 estimated population. The live birth rate for England and Wales for 1966 is 17.7 per 1000 population.

The number of live births that occurred out of wedlock was 6. This figure for 1965 was 7. Illegitimate live births represented 5.1% of the total live births.

Stillbirths

One stillbirth was registered during the year. There were no stillbirths in the previous year.

The stillbirth rate for England and Wales for 1966 is 15.4 per 1000 total (live and still)births, and this rate for the Urban District is 8.5.

Deaths

The actual number of deaths recorded as having occurred within the District during the year is 94 (47 male and 47 female).

For the year 1965 there were 73 deaths in the Urban District. The total number of deaths is obtained after deducting the deaths of non-residents and adding the deaths of residents who died outside the Urban District.

The crude death rate from all causes is 15.0 per 1000 population and when adjusted for comparative purposes the corrected death rate is 11.2 per 1000 estimated population. The death rate from all causes for the year for England and Wales is 11.7 per 1000 population.

The ratio of male/female deaths for the year is 1.0. Only 20 of the deaths occurred in persons under 65 years of age and 51 persons were over 75 years of age at death.

Various forms of heart disease (headings 18, 19 and 20), the most frequent cause of death, gave rise to 32 deaths. The corrected local mortality rate for the year for all forms of heart disease is 3.8 per 1000 estimated population.

Table of Deaths according to Sex and Cause

List No.	Cause of Death	Male	Female	Persons
11.	Malignant Neoplasm, lung, bronchus.	4	1	5
12.	Malignant Neoplasm, breast.	-	2	2
14.	Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	8	3	11
17.	Vascular lesions of nervous system.	9	9	18
18.	Coronary disease, angina.	8	7	15
19.	Hypertension with heart disease.	1	-	1
20.	Other heart disease.	5	11	16
21.	Other circulatory disease.	1	1	2
22.	Influenza.	-	1	1
23.	Pneumonia.	2	8	10
24.	Bronchitis.	4	-	4
25.	Other diseases of respiratory system.	1	-	1
32.	Other defined and ill defined diseases.	3	3	6
33.	Motor vehicle accidents.	1	-	1
34.	All other accidents.	-	1	1
All Causes		47	47	94

Cancer Deaths

The number of deaths caused by cancer of all sites was 18 (12 males and 6 females). In the previous year there were 19 deaths from cancer. The corrected local death rate for all forms of cancer was 2.2 per 1000 estimated population. The cancer (all forms) death rate for England and Wales for 1966 is 2.2 per 1000 population.

Deaths due to Notifiable Infectious Disease

Pneumonia caused ten deaths, and was the only acute notifiable disease attributed as a cause of death during the year; six more than in 1965. The corrected pneumonia death rate for the Urban District is 1.2 per 1000 estimated population.

Tuberculosis

No deaths were attributed to tuberculosis.

The death rate for the year for England and Wales for all forms of tuberculosis is 0.048 per 1000 population.

Infant Mortality

No babies under one year of age died during 1966 - this is most satisfactory and last occurred in 1957.

The infant mortality rate for the year for England and Wales is 19.0 per 1000 live births.

Puerperal and other Maternal Deaths

I am pleased to record that no maternal deaths occurred within the Urban District. The death rate for England and Wales for 1966 from all maternal causes is 0.26 per 1000 total (live and still) births.

SECTION B - GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA

Laboratory Facilities

The Public Health Laboratory at the County Hospital, Hereford, provides facilities for clinical pathological investigations and bacteriological examinations of water, milk and other foods.

Chemical examinations are carried out by the Public Analyst of Worcester, and biological specimens are sent to the Public Health Laboratory at Worcester.

The following table gives the number of investigations made on behalf of the Department during the year:-

Faeces	=	19
Milk (Pasteurised)	=	46
Water (bacteriological)	=	120
Ice Cream	=	2

Two samples of water, 3 of sewage effluent and 2 of trade effluent were sent to the Public Analyst for chemical analysis.

In addition, 3 samples of raw milk were submitted to Worcester Public Health Laboratory for biological test.

Ambulance Service

One ambulance and a utilicon car with six employed drivers are provided at St. John Ambulance Brigade Headquarters in Edde Cross Street, by the Herefordshire County Council. Members of the Ross-on-Wye St. John Ambulance Brigade assist with this service.

Public Mortuary

The Council maintains a small public mortuary with facilities for post mortem examinations at the Depot in Greytree Road. This is very useful to the town and surrounding district.

Disposal of the Dead

Limited use continued to be made of the Council's cemetery in Walford Road - one interment took place during the year.

Section 50 - National Assistance Act, 1948

No burials were carried out by the Council under this Section of the Act during the year.

Section 47 - National Assistance Act, 1948

No investigation was made under this section of the Act during the year.

Public Conveniences

Public Conveniences are situated at the Coach Park, at Cross House and at the Crofts. These are well maintained under the management of the Council's Public Health Inspector and Surveyor.

Hospitals

There are two hospitals in the town under the control of the Birmingham Regional Hospital Board. The Ross Cottage Hospital has 15 beds. It has facilities for medical and surgical cases and an X-ray Department, an operating theatre and an outpatients Department.

The Dean Hill Hospital provides residential accommodation for mentally disordered patients and two wards for chronic sick.

Clinics

A minor ailment clinic for school children is held on Monday mornings during school term, at Chepstow House.

Infant Welfare Clinics are held weekly at Chepstow House on Thursday afternoons

Chepstow House also accommodates dental, ophthalmic, chiropody, speech therapy and physiotherapy clinics each week, provided by the Herefordshire County Council.

SECTION C - SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

Geology

The Urban District of Ross-on-Wye lies on Old Red Sandstone rocks of the Devonian System.

Water

All public water supplies in the Urban District are provided by the Herefordshire Water Board. The water is obtained from the pumping stations at Alton Court, Ross and Castlebrook, Walford.

There was no shortage of water in any part of the District during the year.

All dwellings are supplied from the public mains by service pipes with the exception of 33 houses supplied from 7 standpipes.

There is co-operation between the Department and the Herefordshire Water Board to ensure that all new mains are sterile before being brought into commission.

The water for the public supply is chlorinated at the pumping stations. It has no appreciable solvent action upon ordinary metals and is of good potable quality.

There are no public wells within the Urban District.

Ninetytwo samples of potable water were submitted for bacteriological examination, and all were found to be sterile. Two samples of water from public mains were sent for chemical examination and showed the water to be suitable for human consumption, but somewhat hard.

Total hardness varied from 322 - 304 parts per million and temporary hardness varied from 264 - 268 parts per million (hardness as calcium carbonate). The fluorine content, not verified during the year, is about 0.2 parts per million, which is insufficient to prevent dental decay.

Drainage and Sewerage

Public sewers extend throughout the Urban District and the number of premises not connected to these sewers is negligible. The system is the combined type taking both storm and foul water.

Three samples of sewage effluent from the Council's treatment plant were sent for chemical examination to the Public Analyst and these complied with the Royal Commission standards.

During the year, Stage 3 of the Sewerage Scheme commenced and the following new public sewers were constructed:-

150 yards of 8" dia. sewer
300 " of 30" dia. sewer

This scheme, when completed, will improve drainage in parts of the town and relieve flooding which occurs during heavy storms.

The Council's Consulting Engineer is preparing plans for increasing the capacity of the sewage disposal works which are now working at full capacity.

Two samples of trade effluent were sent for chemical examination. In connection with this there is need for the Council to agree terms for the treatment of trade effluents as these can place a significant demand upon the sewage disposal works.

All new drains were inspected and tested by the Public Health Inspector. The number of drain tests made was 78, and 64 new drains were constructed. Nine existing drains were reconstructed or repaired.

All sewage passes to the Council's Disposal Works at Lower Cleeve for treatment, and the treated effluent passes to the River Wye.

No private sewers were constructed during the year.

Rivers and Streams

The River Wye forms part of the boundary of the Urban District. Two small streams pass through the area - the Checkley Brook was dredged and the culvert under Kings Acre repaired during the year.

Closet Accommodation

Water closets are provided throughout the District.

Sixtythree new water closets were constructed during the year. The need for conversion does not arise.

Public Cleansing

The Council provides a weekly collection of domestic refuse by means of a motor tipping refuse vehicle.

The collection is under the supervision of the Public Health Inspector. Disposal is by tipping at Deep Dean, Walford, in the adjoining Rural District.

In addition to domestic refuse, the Council undertakes the collection of certain types of trade refuse on payment; collection from business premises being made twice a week. In summer, collection from food premises is made three times each week. Waste paper is collected when necessary.

The Council carried out regular cleansing of streets and public places. Street cleansing is under the direction of the Council's Surveyor. The need for cleansing of cesspools and privies does not arise.

There are no public baths or washhouses in the town.

Swimming Baths and Pools

Small swimming pools for instructional purposes are situated at the Grammar School and the Secondary Modern School. Their use is restricted to the pupils of the schools. One factory provided a swimming pool for the use of employees.

Bacteriological examination of 30 samples of water taken from swimming pools showed the water to be satisfactory.

There are no baths or swimming pools open to the public on payment within the Urban District.

Shops and Offices

Shops, Offices and Railway Premises Act, 1963

<u>Class of Premises</u>	<u>Number registered at end of year</u>	<u>Number of Registered Premises receiving General Inspection</u>	<u>No. of Persons employed in registered Premises</u>
Offices	34	9	198
Retail Shops	89	22	384
Wholesale Shops, Warehouses	1	-	24
Catering Establish- ments open to the public, Canteens	13	-	83
Fuel Storage Depots	1	-	1
Total	138	31	690

The number of visits made to registered premises during the year was 55.

The Agricultural (Safety, Health and Welfare Provisions) Act, 1956

No holdings were inspected under this Act during the year. Only three holdings are registered with the Council.

Factories Act, 1961

There were 46 factories with mechanical power and 9 without mechanical power registered with the Council at the end of the year. In addition, there were 18 workplaces to which Section 7 of the Act applied.

Part I of Act

1. Inspections made for the purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by the Public Health Inspector).

Premises	Number on Register	Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	9	Nil	-	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	46	48	-	-
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (except outworkers's premises)	18	355	-	-
Total	73	403	-	-

2. Cases in which Defects were found.

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector	by H.M. Inspector	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
Sanitary Conveniences					
(a) Insufficient	5	2	-	5	-
Total	5	2	-	5	-

Outworkers

There is one outworker registered with the Local Authority engaged in making wearing apparel. Conditions were satisfactory.

Eight workplaces were registered during the year.

Ten factories with mechanical power, two without mechanical power and eleven workplaces subject to the Act were erased from the register during the year.

Sanitary Inspection of the Area

I am indebted to Mr. R.H. Shaw-Batchford, Public Health Inspector to the Council, for the following statement furnished under Article 25(20) of the Public Health Officers Regulations, 1959:-

Inspections

Accumulations	=	9
Animals	=	2
Burial Grounds	=	5
Camping Sites	=	49
Canteens	=	1
Caravans	=	58
Control of Pests	=	1
Dairies	=	4
Drainage	=	89
Drain Tests	=	78
Factories (with mechanical power)	=	24
Floods	=	46
Food Poisoning	=	3
Food Premises	=	17
Houses (Consolidated Regulations 1925 & 1932)	=	6
Housing (Other)	=	34
Ice Cream (Registered Premises)	=	3
Infectious Disease	=	6
Licensed Victuallers's Premises	=	11
Markets	=	35
Public Conveniences	=	8
Public Mortuaries	=	2
Refuse Tips	=	73
Schools	=	1
Sewage Disposal Works	=	86
Sewers	=	115
Slaughterhouses	=	8
Water Courses	=	28
Work Places	=	355
Offices, Shops & Railway Premises	=	55
Rats and Mice	=	306

Notices Issued

Informal	=	30
Statutory re Housing	=	2
Statutory under other Acts	=	8

Summary of Defects Remedied

Domestic Baths provided	=	9
Drains and Gullies cleared	=	13
Drains repaired	=	9
Drains reconstructed	=	10
Defective floors repaired	=	12
Defective roofs repaired	=	9
Defective eaves gutters repaired	=	8
Defective brickwork repaired	=	13
Defective Coppers remedied	=	1
Defective windows repaired	=	3
Defective chimneys repaired	=	5
Dampness of floors and walls remedied	=	6
Flooded premises cleared	=	4
New Gullies provided	=	7
Rainwater pipes provided or repaired	=	2
Slaughterhouses improved	=	1
New Sinks provided	=	8
Sanitary fittings provided	=	9
Miscellaneous defects remedied	=	2

Camping Sites - Public Health Act 1936. Section 269
Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act 1960

One site within the Urban District was used for camping purposes during the year. No licences were granted by the Council under Section 269 of the Public Health Act 1936.

Two sites were licensed under Section 3 of Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act 1960.

It is estimated that the maximum number of campers in the area at any time did not exceed 100 persons.

The Council undertook a prosecution for illegal stationing of a caravan and one for illegal camping and fines of £90 and £5 respectively were imposed on the offenders.

Common Lodging Houses

There are no common lodging houses in the town.

Eradication of Bed Bugs
Hydrogen Cyanide Regulations (Fumigation of Buildings) 1951

No houses were found to be infested with bed bugs during the year, and no buildings were disinfested with hydrogen cyanide.

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act 1949

The Council employs one rodent operator who works under the supervision of the Public Health Inspector. This work averages about 24 hours per week.

	Premises inspected	Total Infest- ations	<u>Rats</u>		Mice	No. of properties treated	Total Inspect- ions
			Major	Minor			
Local Authorities's Properties	5	5	-	5	-	5	5
Dwelling Houses							
Houses	91	91	-	90	1	91	301
Agricultural Properties	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
All other (including business) premises	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	96	96	-	95	1	96	306

Petroleum (Consolidation) Act 1928

Three new licences were granted by the Council for the storage of petroleum spirit, and one storage installation was discontinued during the year. There were 19 storage installations in use at the end of the year.

SECTION D - HOUSING

During the year no Council dwellings were completed but 10 were under construction at the end of the year.

At the end of the year the Council owned 533 permanent dwellings.

Private persons completed 46 new houses in the Urban District and had 53 houses under construction at the close of the year.

The repair by owners of 36 unfit dwellings was obtained as a result of informal action.

The number of housing inspections made was 40.

Inspection of Dwelling Houses during the Year

- | | | | |
|----|---|---|----|
| 1. | Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) | = | 32 |
| 2. | Number of dwellings found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation | = | 2 |
| 3. | Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation | = | 30 |

Housing Act 1957. Part IV. Overcrowding

Overcrowding of dwellings is not a big problem in the town. Four dwellings were known to be overcrowded at the beginning of the year. No cases came to the notice of the Council during the year and it was possible to secure abatement of one case involving 9 persons, so that only three dwellings were known to be overcrowded at the end of the year.

Housing (Financial Provisions) Act 1958. Part II. Section 30

During the year the Council made 3 grants under this section for the improvement of dwelling houses. These grants were discretionary grants and brought the total number of such grants made by the Council to 67.

House Purchase and Housing Act 1959. Part II. Section 4

During the year the Council made 4 grants under this section for the improvement of dwellings by the provision of standard amenities.

Housing (Financial Provisions) Act 1958. Part II. Section 43
House Purchase and Housing Act 1959. Section 3

The Council made 2 loans under these sections to assist persons in house purchase. These brought the total number of loans granted to 148.

Houses Demolished

- | | | | |
|-----|------------------------|---|-----|
| (1) | In Clearance Areas | = | Nil |
| (2) | Not in Clearance Areas | = | Nil |

Unfit Houses made Fit and Houses in which Defects were Remedied

(1)	After informal action		
	(i) by Owner	=	36
	(ii) by Local Authority	=	Nil
(2)	After formal action		
	(i) by Owner	=	Nil
	(ii) by Local Authority	=	Nil

Houses Let in Lodgings

There is only one house let in lodgings in the town.

SECTION E - INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

Milk - Milk and Dairies (General) Regulations, 1959

The Urban District is a specified area and all milk sold retail is designated milk, i.e., pasteurised, sterilised or tuberculin tested milk. The number of inspections of dairies made during the year was four.

Ten milk distributors were registered with the Council. There is one dairy situated within the Urban District but no plants for the pasteurisation of milk. No action was necessary under the Regulations.

The Milk (Special Designation) Regulations, 1960

All licences granted under these Regulations are issued by the Herefordshire County Council, which is the Food and Drug Authority.

Fortyfive samples of pasteurised milk were submitted to the Public Health Laboratory and 40 were found to comply with the Regulations. Of the five unsatisfactory samples four came from one distributor, three failed to comply with the methylene blue test, and the fourth sample failed the phophatase test.

Three samples of tuberculin tested milk were sent for biological test and were found to be satisfactory.

Ice Cream

One automatic ice cream making machine is registered and is the only manufacture of ice cream in the town.

There were 35 premises registered for storage and sale of ice cream. Two samples sent for Laboratory examination were satisfactory.

There was no evidence that consumption of ice cream caused acute disease in the population.

Water Cress

No special action was necessary by the Department in connection with the sale of this foodstuff. It grows in natural conditions in the vicinity of the town, and supplies from commercial beds are also sold in the town.

Shell Fish

The sale of shellfish in the town is small. No action by the Department was necessary and no case of illness was attributed to consumption of this food. Small quantities of oysters from Whitstable, and mussels and cockles from the Gower coast form the greater part of this trade. With the development of frozen foods it is possible that the sale of fresh fish will diminish.

MeatSlaughterhouses Act 1958

One licensed slaughterhouse continued in use throughout the year. Mr. W. Costelloe commenced duties as additional Authorised Meat Inspector on the 4th July.

The number of animals slaughtered and inspected during the year was 67,096, an increase of 21,417 on the total for the previous year. All meat was inspected before leaving the abattoir. Unsound meat is stained before being removed by contractors. Livers affected with fluke are sent for processing into dog food. All other unsound meat is sent for manufacture into fertiliser.

During the year the walls of the slaughterhall were lined with Darvic board to a height of seven feet; two new mechanised hoists were installed, and the overhead rail system in the hanging room was improved.

The internal walls of the lairage were cement rendered and the open end of the lairage was boarded to minimise draught.

A large number of casualty animals were slaughtered and also a number of suspect animals. The provision of an isolation pen would facilitate the handling of suspect animals.

Insulated refrigerated vehicles are now used for the transporting of meat, except short duration journeys.

The carcase meat found to be unfit for human consumption during the year amounted to 6 tons 3 cwt. 8 lbs.

Meat found to be unfit for Human Consumption
at Abattoir during 1966

<u>Quantity</u>	<u>Oxen</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Cause of unsoundness</u>
1		Bullock Carcase	Generalised Toxaemia
1		Cow "	Bruising -
1		Cow "	Emaciation and Oedema
1		Cow "	Septic Metritis
1		Cow "	Imperfect Bleeding
1		Heifer "	Immaturity
1		" "	Toxaemia
1		" "	Nephritis
	<u>Pigs</u>		
4		Carcases	Septicaemia
1		Carcase	Pleurisy
1		"	Trauma
1		"	Atrophic Rhinitis
1		"	Pyæmia
2		Carcases	Pneumonia
1		Carcase	Asphyxia
2		Carcases	Oedema and Emaciation
1		Carcase	Uraemia
1		Sow Carcase	Gangrenous Metritis
1		Sow Carcase	Enteritis
1		Sow Carcase	Ascites
1		Sow Carcase	Toxaemia

Pigs (continued)

<u>Quantity</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Cause of Unsoundness</u>
	<u>Parts</u>	
205 lbs.	Sow Carcase	Sepsis
74 lbs.	Hinds & Foreshanks	Arthritis
34 lbs.	Trimnings	Trauma
9 lbs.	Loin and Belly	Peritonitis
25 lbs.	Loin and Forequarter	Sepsis
54 lbs.	Legs and Foreshanks	Trauma
5 lbs.	Foreshank	Ulcer
2	Skins	Erysipelas
1	Skin	Urticaria
2	Skins	Trauma
10	Feet	Arthritis
	<u>Offal</u>	
300	Livers	Ascaris Lumbricoides
5	"	Peritonitis
1	Liver	Hydatid Cysts
1	"	Abscesses
6	Livers	Hepatitis
7	Livers	Necrotic Foci
1	Liver	Fatty Degeneration
	<u>Lungs</u>	
182 Pairs	Lungs	Pneumonia
75 "	"	Pleurisy
1 "	"	Lung Worms
68 "	"	Congestion
4 "	"	Abscesses
1	Spleen	Haematoma
93	Plucks	Pneumonia
5	"	Contamination - Vermin
58	"	Ascaris
6	"	Congestion
29	"	Pleurisy
59	"	Pneumonia & Ascaris
13	Heads	Abscesses
1	Head	Trauma
9	Heads	Tuberculosis
2	"	Atrophic Rhinitis
59	Hearts	Pericarditis
1	Heart	Endocarditis
7	Kidneys	Hydronephrosis
5	"	Infarcts
6	"	Retention Cysts
2	"	Congestion
1	Kidney	Nephritis
6	Tops	Pericarditis and Pneumonia
28	"	Decomposition

<u>Quantity</u>	<u>Sheep</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Cause of Unsoundness</u>
1		Carcase	Peritonitis
2		Carcases	Emaciation
2		"	Pyaemia
1		Carcase	Asphyxia
3		Carcases	Pneumonia
1		Carcase	Oedema & Emaciation
2		Carcases	Pleurisy
1		Carcase	Imperfect Bleeding
1		"	Immaturity
17		Ewe Carcasses	Oedema & Emaciation
1		" Carcase	Toxaemia
2		" Carcasses	Imperfect Bleeding
1		" Carcase	Enteritis
1		" Carcase	Pneumonia
1		" "	Postular Dermatitis
1		" "	Lymphatic Leukaemia
<u>Parts</u>			
74 lbs.		Legs and Shanks	Arthritis
19 lbs.		" " "	Trauma
81 lbs.		Legs and Shoulders	Contusion
3 lbs.		Flank	Blood Splashing
77 lbs.		Forequarters and Legs	Abscesses
5 lbs.		Loin and Flank	Peritonitis
26 lbs.		Forequarters	Pneumonia
3 lbs.		Trimnings	Necrosis
12 lbs.		Forequarter	Pleurisy
<u>Offal</u>			
1,041		Livers	Fascioliasis
7		"	Abscesses
503		"	Cysticercus Tenuicollis
2		"	Necrosis
4		"	Contamination by Vermin
68		"	Hydatid Cysts
3		"	Decomposition
9		"	Fatty Degeneration
1		Liver	Peritonitis
2		Livers	Contamination
99		"	Necrotic Foci
241		"	Parasitic Cysts
<u>Tops</u>			
4		Tops	Muellerius Capillaris
5		"	Pneumonia
8		"	Pleurisy
16		"	Contaminated Stomach Contents
<u>Plucks</u>			
12		Plucks	Pneumonia
5		"	Pleurisy
9		"	Pneumonia
1		Pluck	Leukaemia
56		Plucks	Hydatid Cysts
10		"	Fascioliasis
2		"	Abscesses
2		"	Pericarditis
8		"	Contamination by Vermin
1		Pluck	Decomposition
19		Plucks	Contamination
29		"	Cysticercus Tenuicollis
<u>Head</u>			
1		Head	ORF.
130		Heads	Multiceps
<u>Hearts</u>			
3		Hearts	Pericarditis

<u>Sheep (continued)</u>		
<u>Quantity</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Cause of Unsoundness</u>
5	Kidneys	Nephritis
1 Pair	"	Retention Cysts
110 lbs.	Sweebreads	Decomposition
109 Pairs	Lungs	Muellerius Capillaris
2 "	"	Melanosis
10 "	"	Pneumonia
5 "	"	Contamination
88 "	"	Decomposition
3 "	"	Congestion
5 "	"	Pleurisy
2 "	"	Necrotic Foci
8 "	"	Hydatid Cysts
<u>Oxen</u>		
5 lbs.	Sirloin	Steatosis
42 lbs.	Brisket	Calcification
194 lbs.	Thin Ribs, Sirloin, Flanks, and Neck	Contusion
359 lbs.	Trimmings	Contusion
12 lbs.	Shin and Ribs	Malformation
185 lbs.	Fat and Suet	Necrosis
438 lbs.	Limbs, Ribs.	Trauma
39 lbs.	Flank and Kidney	Abscesses
247 lbs.	Boneless Beef	Decomposition
113 lbs.	Brisket and Flanks	Rancidity
28 lbs.	Flank	Peritonitis
39 lbs.	Loin and Thin Ribs	Peritonitis
29 lbs.	Shins	Arthritis
<u>Calf Carcasses</u>		
7	Carcases	Immaturity
1	Carcase	Imperfect Bleeding
8	"	Septicaemia
2	"	Oedema and Emaciation
1	Carcase	Pyaemia
1	"	Pneumonia
1	"	Anaemia and Oedema
8 lbs.	Foreshank	Trauma
16	Hearts	Pericarditis
1	Heart	Contamination
1	"	Tumour
1	"	Pericarditis
1	"	Abscess
1	"	C. Bovis
1	Skirting - Thick	Tumour
2	" "	Contamination
1	" "	Peritonitis
1	" "	Abscess
4	Kidneys	Nephritis
1	Kidney	Contaminatio
5	Kidneys	Abscesses
1	Kidney	Retention Cysts
1	"	Necrosis
1	"	Fatty Degeneration
3	Heads	Decomposition
2	"	Abscesses
4	"	Actinomycosis

<u>Quantity</u>	<u>Oxen (continued)</u> <u>Description</u>	<u>Cause of unsoundness</u>
2	Heads and Tongues	Cysticercus Bovis
7	Tongues	Action Mycosis
1	Tongue	Decomposition
1	"	Abscess
1	Spleen	Adhesion
1	"	Decomposition
1	"	Infarction
1	"	Congestion
3	Spleens	Abscesses
2	"	Contamination
4	"	Peritonitis
1	Spleen	Streets
1	Stomach and Intestines	Johne's Disease
4	Stomachs and Intestines	T.B.
1	Stomach and Intestines	Contamination
1	" " "	Peritonitis
27	Stomachs & Intestines	Decomposition
1	Stomach and Intestines	Enteritis
4	Udders	Mastitis
85 Pairs	Lungs	Pleurisy
83 "	"	Hydatid Cysts
17 "	"	Abscesses
6 "	"	Contamination
7 "	"	Decomposition
8	"	Pneumonia
1	"	Melanosis
1	"	Tumour
3	"	Parasitic Cysts
1	"	Emphysema
1	"	Fibrosis
520	Livers	Abscesses.
363	"	Fascioliasis
65	"	Hydatid Cysts
10	"	Peritonitis
7	"	Necrosis
16	"	Telangiectasis
1	Liver	Fatty Degeneration
6	Livers	Cirrhosis
2	"	Cloudy Swelling
2	"	Parasitic Cysts
1	Liver	Melanosis
1	"	Hepatitis

<u>Carcases and Offal inspected and condemned, in whole or in part</u>						
	Cattle excluding Cows			Sheep and Lambs		Horses
	Cows	Cows	Calves	Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number killed (if known)	9,375	65	108	47,328	10,220	Nil
Number inspected	9,375	65	108	47,328	10,220	Nil
<u>All Diseases</u>						
<u>except</u>						
<u>Tuberculosis</u>						
<u>& Cysticerci</u>						
Whole Carcasses condemned	4	4	21	39	18	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	1,376	42	3	2,489	1,073	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci	14.7%	70.8%	22.2%	5.3%	10.7%	-
<u>Tuberculosis only</u>						
Whole Carcasses condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	4	-	-	-	9	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	0.04%	-	-	-	0.09%	-
<u>Cysticercosis</u>						
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	3	-	-	-	-	-
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration	-	-	-	-	-	-
Generalised and totally condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-

Slaughter of of Animals (Amendment) Act, 1954
Slaughter of Animals Act, 1958

Six slaughterman's licences were issued by the Council for the slaughter of cattle, sheep, pigs and goats. No licences were issued permitting the slaughter of horses.

Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1960

These Regulations are being observed and enforcement is in many cases unnecessary as most traders are anxious to improve their hygienic standards.

The following list gives the amount of food found to be unfit for human consumption and voluntarily surrendered:-

<u>Quantity</u>	<u>Food</u>	<u>Cause of unsoundness</u>
51 lbs.	Fish	Decomposition
177 tins	Miscellaneous foods	Blown tins, etc.
48 lbs.	Luncheon Meat	" " "
71 lbs.	Frozen Foods	Spoilage

The last items of the above list were spoiled as a result of refrigeration failure.

All unsound food is collected by the Council's staff and buried on the refuse tip at Deep Dean.

Food and Drugs Act, 1955. Section 16

There are 14 premises in the town concerned with processing, preservation, or manufacture of food, registered with the Council under Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955. Seven of these process meat, including brawn and sausage manufacture and ham boiling.

There are 4 bakeries and 3 fish frying establishments in the town. The number of inspections made of registered premises during the year was 17.

Byelaws as to Handling, Wrapping and Delivery of Food, and Sale of Food in Open Air

No action was necessary under these Byelaws, which have resulted in more hygienic handling of food.

Food and Drugs Act 1955. Section 26 - Food Poisoning

One case of food poisoning occurred within the Urban District during the year. This was an infection with Salmonella Pretoria, occurring in a person returning from Spain. Spread of infection was prevented.

SECTION F - PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS DISEASE

The incidence of acute notifiable disease in the Urban District during the year was higher than in 1965 owing to an increased prevalence of measles. Apart from this disease only one case of scarlet fever and one case of food poisoning were notified. Almost all the notifications were received during the first quarter of the year. The notification rate was 24.6 per 1000 estimated population.

Throughout the year the Urban District continued to be free from diphtheria, typhoid fevers, poliomyelitis, dysentery and whooping cough.

Confirmed Cases of Infectious Disease
in each Quarter during 1966

Disease	1st Quarter	2nd Quarter	3rd Quarter	4th Quarter	Year
Measles	140	1	-	12	153
Scarlet Fever	1	-	-	-	1
All Diseases	141	1	-	12	154

Measles

The number of cases of measles notified was 153, of these 140 were received during the first quarter of the year. The incidence of the disease in the fourth quarter of the previous year (13 cases) was slight but there was increased prevalence at the beginning of the year. The town was free from the disease during the second and third quarters.

The patients were all persons under fifteen years of age, the age group showing maximum incidence being 5 - 10 years group. Both sexes were equally affected. The number of families involved was 94, of these 59 each experienced one case and 22 experienced 2 cases. A clear history of contact with a previous case was obtained in 47 cases. The disease was almost confined to within the Urban District boundaries

Notifiable Infectious Disease according to Age Groups

Disease	0+	1+	2+	3+	4+	5+	10+	15+	25+	45+	65+	All Ages
Measles	6	10	20	14	33	69	1	-	-	-	-	153
Scarlet Fever	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
All Diseases	6	10	20	14	33	70	1	-	-	-	-	154

Two persons recently returned from Central India were found to be dysentery carriers (Flexner Type 1b) but were eventually cleared.

Only one case of Scarlet Fever was notified - this occurred during the first quarter of the year.

Pneumonia

No notifications were received but 10 deaths were attributed to the disease.

Other Infectious Diseases

Influenza appeared in the Urban District in February and one death was attributed to the disease.

Tuberculosis

At the beginning of the year there were 47 cases of tuberculosis on the register, 39 of these being in respect of respiratory disease. During the year 2 cases of respiratory disease and one of non-respiratory disease were added to the register, one of these being a new respiratory infection and one a non-respiratory infection.

Two cases of respiratory disease were removed from the register during the year having recovered; so that 48 cases remained on the register at the end of the year - 39 of these being in respect of respiratory disease.

There were no deaths in the Urban District attributed to tuberculosis during 1966.

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COUNTY OBSERVATORY,

ROSS-ON-WYE.

ANNUAL METEOROLOGICAL REPORT FOR 1966

Another DULL Year

Chief features of 1966 weather were lack of sunshine for the fifth successive year, the high rainfall of February and October, the mid-April snow-storm and the brilliant May with its highest sunshine for 10 years, and the brightest Whitsuntide on record. By contrast there was a large deficit in sunshine in April and June which latter month was the warmest of the year in spite of its dullness! Not since 1960 had June been warmer, or enjoyed the distinction of being the warmest month. Only twice previously had there been less sunshine in April (in 1920 and 1961) and its sunless days numbered 13 - the highest on record. Yet in the last week $51\frac{1}{4}$ hours sunshine were registered! - a striking contrast to the first 18 days with a total of only $17\frac{3}{4}$ hours, the dullest April spell on record.

The snowfall on 14th, reaching a depth of 3 to $3\frac{1}{2}$ inches was the worst for April since 1922. Rainfall occurred on 22 days, the highest number since 1899 whilst the average daily maximum temperature, 50.9 deg. F., was the lowest for 30 years. Only in the closing days did warm weather arrive giving the first reading for the year of 60 deg. (on 28th).

March was free from temperature extremes, whilst February was remarkably free from frost - there being only one night with air frost. Another long period without air frost occurred between November 25th and December 25th. On the latter date was registered the only air frost in December! The year as a whole was slightly warmer than average. Rain exceeded normal for second time since 1960. March was the driest month followed by June and September. A new record was established for a wet day in November when 1.77 inches fell on the 4th. Apart from August the summer was dry, if cool.

The year's only "absolute drought" lasted from September 15th to 29th - or 15 days (the minimum period qualifying for an absolute drought).

The sunniest weeks were Whit week (May 29 - June 4) with $83\frac{3}{4}$ hours and August 14th - 20th with $73\frac{1}{4}$ hours. The latter was also the warmest week of the year. Other warm weeks were June 5 - 11, July 17 - 23 and September 4 - 10. The month of September had more fog than usual; more than was experienced in October and November combined!

August had the only thunderstorms of the year, viz: on 20th and 29th (Bank Holiday).

Subjoined are the usual Tables of Statistics.

TABLE I

AIR TEMPERATURE in Shade (deg. FAHR.)

Thermometers in Stevenson Screen (4 ft. above short grass)

Month	Mean	Deviation from Normal. *	E X T R E M E S			
			Highest	Date	Lowest	Date
January	38.0	- 1.4	55	24	19	15
February	43.8	+ 3.7	55	5, 20	31	14
March	44.5	+ 1.6	57	5	25	20
April	45.6	- 1.9	69	30	29	4
May	52.4	- 0.9	76	1	37	10, 13
June	60.1	+ 1.5	80	9	43	1 & 19
July	59.9	- 1.9	79	22	43	18
August	59.6	- 1.3	79	18, 19, 20	40	2
September	57.0	+ 0.3	71	6, 9	38	17
October	50.9	+ 1.2	68	3	31	26
November	42.0	- 1.9	54	15	28	24
December	44.5	+ 4.1	55	29	31	25
Year	49.9	+ 0.3	80	June 9	19	Jan. 15

* Normal values are for 70 years 1881 - 1950

COLDEST DAY January 19th. maximum temperature 29 deg. F.

WARMEST NIGHTS August 11th/12 minimum temperature 63 deg. F.
 September 3rd/4th " " 61 deg. F.
 September 10th/11 " " 60 deg. F.
 July 23rd/24th }

TABLE II

EARTH TEMPERATURE (deg. FAHR.)

Month	M E A N S ϕ				No. of Nights with ground frost. *	Lowest reading	Date
	At One Foot	Deviation from Normal	At Four Feet	Deviation from Normal			
January	38.7	-1.1	42.6	-1.2	18	11	15
February	42.8	+3.1	43.8	-1.1	4	25	14
March	44.3	+1.9	45.2	+1.7	18	14	20
April	45.9	-1.8	45.8	-0.9	8	17	4
May	54.5	+0.4	51.1	+0.1	9	27	10
June	60.8	+0.7	56.3	+0.5	0	35	1
July	61.7	-1.4	58.9	-0.3	0	34	18
August	61.2	-1.2	59.0	-1.2	0	35	2
September	59.4	+0.7	59.0	0.0	0	34	17
October	53.3	+1.0	55.7	+0.6	7	9	29
November	44.3	-1.3	49.1	-1.0	16	15	3
December	42.7	+1.1	45.9	-0.2	11	19	25
Year	50.8	+0.2	51.0	-0.1	91	9	Oct. 29

 ϕ Normals are for 40 years 1921 - 1960* Ground frost occurs with temperatures BELOW 32 deg. F.

TABLE III

RAINFALL (in Inches) *

Month	Total	Deviation	Highest	No. of	Rainfall
	Depth	from	Daily	Rain	Duration
		normal. ϕ	Fall. Date	Days. //	(Hrs. & 10ths)
January	1.74	-0.99	.35 25	14	41.7
February	4.18	+2.12	.57 18	18	86.2
March	.94	-1.03	.25 2	14	22.6
April	3.69	+1.81	.45 14	22	91.2
May	2.12	-0.04	.68 8	13	37.0
June	1.19	-0.76	.22 22	16	19.0
July	1.35	-0.96	.27 28	10	20.0
August	3.15	+0.65	.83 20	13	44.0
September	1.19	-1.23	.39 4	8	17.3
October	4.20	+1.22	.79 21	21	59.8
November	3.12	+0.30	1.77 4	10	42.1
December	2.13	+0.67	.60 1	18	47.4
Year	29.00	+0.42	1.77 Nov.4	177	528.3

ϕ Normals are for 100 years 1861 - 1960

* Diameter of Gauge 5 inches Height of rim above ground
12 inches

Height of Gauge above Mean Sea Level 223 feet

// A rain-day is one with at least .005 inch rainfall in
24 hours to 9 a.m. (G.M.T.).

TABLE IV

BRIGHT SUNSHINE (In hours and 10ths)

as registered by the standard Campbell-Stokes instrument
35 feet above ground on the Anemometer Tower

Month	Total	Deviation	Highest daily	Number of
	Duration	from normal *	record. Date	sunless days
January	32.3	- 20.8	6.6 14	14
February	35.9	- 33.0	4.5 2, 27	12
March	124.3	+ 10.2	10.0 18	3
April	82.5	- 70.5	12.7 30	13
May	228.3	+ 41.4	15.5 ϕ 30	2
June	145.2	- 54.0	14.4 3	0
July	144.5	- 36.8	13.1 3	0
August	159.7	- 10.2	13.6 17	1
September	148.5	+ 13.6	12.0 6	2
October	97.5	- 0.1	8.7 11, 23	4
November	47.9	- 10.4	6.6 3	10
December	48.3	- 1.5	6.0 25	6
Year	1294.9	-167.1	15.5 ϕ May 30	67

* Normals are for 45 years 1916 - 1960

Highest SOLAR RADIATION TEMPERATURES (Black Bulb in vacuo)

146 deg. F. on July 6th

142 deg. F. on July 22nd

140 deg. F. on May 15th

TABLE V

BAROMETRIC PRESSURE (in Inches of Mercury)

Corrected for Mean Sea-Level and temperature 32 deg. FAHR.

Height of Cistern above Sea-Level: 226 feet

<u>Month</u>	<u>Mean Pressure</u>	<u>Deviation from Normal</u>	<u>Highest</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Lowest</u>	<u>Date</u>
January	29.843	- 0.117	30.527	13	29.073	2
February	29.550	- 0.446	30.061	28	28.669	22
March	30.149	+ 0.153	30.818	19	29.020	27
April	29.784	- 0.162	30.566	29	29.163	9
May	30.008	+ 0.020	30.414	15	29.380	11
June	29.948	- 0.084	30.272	30	29.542	20
July	29.980	+ 0.003	30.253	21	29.599	24
August	29.939	- 0.041	30.502	16	29.403	3
September	30.045	+ 0.033	30.478	16	29.447	2
October	29.741	- 0.227	30.447	30	29.002	3
November	29.971	+ 0.056	30.341	10, 11	28.788	5
December	29.798	- 0.167	30.290	1	28.426	1
Year	29.896	- 0.084	30.818	March 19	28.426	Dec. 1

TABLE VI

WIND DIRECTION and RELATIVE HUMIDITY

<u>Month</u>	<u>Prevailing Wind.</u>	<u>Percentage of observations</u>	<u>Relative Humidity</u> *		
			<u>Mean</u>	<u>Lowest</u>	<u>Date</u>
			<u>Percentage</u>	<u>Value</u>	
January	East	28	86	58	6
February	South-West	36	83	58	26
March	West	34	74	36	18, 25
April	East	34	82	31	30
May	South-West	37	70	29	30
June	South-West	34	75	43	1
July	West	29	73	31	21
August	South-West & West	21 each	78	32	16
September	South-West	23	81	48	8
October	South-West	20	85	56	11
November	North & South- West	24 each	84	56	28
December	West	39	81	57	1
Year	South-West	26	79	29	May 30

* Saturation = 100 per cent

J. Q. Larson
METEOROLOGICAL OFFICER

